

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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STATE FOR CU/EE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC RO

SUBJ: 1975-76 ROMANIAN GRADUATE STUDENT PROGRAM

REF: STATE 011107

1. EMBASSY FINDS REFTEL PUZZLING SINCE WE THOUGHT THAT ALL
WASHINGTON ELEMENTS INVOLVED
ROMANIAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM RECOGNIZED THAT NO MEANINGFUL
DISTINCTION CAN BE MADE BETWEEN ROMANIAN NOMINEES IN "GRADUATE
STUDENT" OR "RESEARCHER" CATEGORIES. IT IS FOR THIS REASON
THAT WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY URGED DEPARTMENT TO CONSIDER HAVING
ALL ROMANIAN NOMINEES UNDER ARTICLE I, SECTION 1, OF PROGRAM
OF EXCHANGES PLACED BY CIES. IN OUR VIEW, IIE WORLD-WIDE
FORMS, PROCEDURES, AND REQUIREMENTS ARE NEITHER SUITABLE FOR
TOMANIAN NOMINEES NOR CONSONANT WITH PROGRAM REALITIES HERE.

2. SPECIFICALLY, DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT ALL
ROMANIAN NOMINEES IN 1974-75 "GRADUATE STUDENT" CATEGORY
WERE EITHER "TEACHERS" OR ON RESEARCH STAFF OF ROMANIAN
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR U.S.
GOR DOES NOT, AS MATTER OF PRACTICE, SELECT PERSONS
WHO MEET USUAL AMERICAN DEFINITION OF "GRADUATE STUDENT"
FOR FOREIGN STUDY GRANTS, PARTICULARLY TO U.S. THEREFORE,
EXPECTATION OF DEPARTMENT THAT 1975-76 ROMANIAN NOMINEES IN
THIS CATEGORY WILL BE "BONAFIDE" GRADUATE STUDENTS-DEFINITION OF
WHICH DOES NOT EXIST IN OUR BILATERAL DOCUMENTS- IS FUTILE.
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IN ADDITION, ANY EFFORT BY THE EMBASSY TO ENFORCE OUR DEFINITION

AT THIS DATE FOR COMING PROGRAM YEAR WOULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE
IMPACT ON LEVEL OF ROMANIAN PARTICIPATION. FYI: EMBASSY MEETING
WITH ROMANIAN NOMINEES JANUARY 23 FOR ORIENTATION AND PRELIMINARY
LANGUAGE INTERVIEWS. END FYI.

3. CU/EE DIRECTOR RICHMOND AND OTHERS ARE WELL AWARE OF THE
EMBASSY VIEW THAT PRESENT STIPEND OF \$310 FOR THIS CATEGORY
IS INSUFFICIENT. WE HAVE STRESSED REPEATEDLY THAT THERE IS NO
JUSTIFICATION FOR LARGE GAP BETWEEN STIPEND LEVELS FOR TWO
CATEGORIES SINCE ASSIGNMENT TO ONE OR THE OTHER BY
ROMANIAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION IS ARBITRARY AND CAPRICIOUS.
WE CONTINUE TO RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT DEPARTMENT
CONSIDER "ACROSS-THE-BOARD" INCREASE IN \$310 STIPEND LEVEL.
AT VERY LEAST, WE BELIEVE THAT DEPARTMENT SHOULD GRANT STIPEND
IN THIS CATEGORY ACCORDING TO DIFFERING COSTS INVOLVED IN EACH
GRANTEE SITUATION.

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